

PATENT APPLN. NO. 10/540,622
RESPONSE UNDER 37 C.F.R. §1.111

PATENT
NON-FINAL

REMARKS

The claims have been amended to recite that the amount of electrical-loss material in the sheet from which the corrugated medium and/or the liner of the paperboard structure of which the sheet material for a radio wave absorber of the present invention is comprised is 0.08 to 3 wt %. The lower limit of 0.08 wt % is supported, interalia, by claim 8. The upper limit of 3 wt % is supported by the description in Embodiment 1 on page 25 of the application of the use of carbon fiber in a mixing ratio of 3 wt % with chopped glass fiber and aramid pulp.

Claim 8 has been amended for consistency with the amendment to claim 1 by deleting the recitation "and a mixing ratio in the mixed paper is 0.08 to 20 wt%".

The claims as amended are patentable under 35 U.S.C. § 102 and 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) over the prior art and, particularly, over the prior art cited in the Action.

Referring to the Action, claims 1-9 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102 as being anticipated by either Tsujimoto et al., U.S. Patent No. 5,310,593 ("Tsujimoto"), or JP 07-251004.

JP07-251004 discloses an adsorption element and in paragraphs [0006] and [0008] of the English translation thereof describes that the adsorption element contains not less than 10 wt% of an

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activated carbon fiber, which is suitable for gas phase adsorption or liquid phase adsorption.

JP 07-251004 does not disclose or suggest a sheet material for a radio wave absorber as recited in claims 1-9 of the present application.

Tsujimoto discloses an adsorbent comprising a plurality of sintered sheets of activated carbon, which can be fibrous activated carbon. The activated carbon adsorbing agent is necessarily the major component of the sintered adsorbent sheets. For example, in Example 1 of Tsujimoto, the quantity of the activated carbon used to form the sintered sheet is 94 wt%.

Tsujimoto also does not disclose or suggest a sheet material for a radio wave absorber as recited in claims 1-9 of the present application.

Removal of the 35 U.S.C. § 102 ground of rejection is in order and is respectfully requested.

Claims 10-19 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Tsujimoto or JP 07-251004 in view of Yamamoto et al., U.S. Patent No. 6,061,011 ("Yamamoto").

This rejection is improper because, first, the proposed modification of the adsorbents of Tsujimoto or JP 07-251004 according to the teachings of Yamamoto will not result in the radio

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wave absorbers of claims 10-19 in view of the differences explained above between the sheet material for a radio wave absorber of the present invention as recited in claim 1 of the application and the adsorbent of JP 07-251004 and of Tsujimoto.

Second, no motive is provided by the prior art to combine JP 07-251004 or Tsujimoto with Yamamoto as proposed by the Office and the Office has not provided any reasoning with rational underpinning to support its proposed combination of JP 07-251004 or Tsujimoto and Yamamoto or its conclusion of obviousness.

A person of ordinary skill in the art would have no reason to use an adsorbent for gas and liquid phase absorption as disclosed in JP 07-251004 and Tsujimoto in a radio wave absorber as disclosed in Yamamoto and could not have fairly predicted the results of such combination.

Moreover, Yamamoto et al. does not suggest such shapes as recited in claims 13-15 of the present application and, notwithstanding the other differences noted above, the proposed combination of JP 07-251004 or Tsujimoto with Yamamoto will not result in the radio wave absorbers of these claims.

Removal of the 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) ground of rejection is also in order and is respectfully requested.

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The foregoing is believed to be a complete and proper response to the Office Action dated October 8, 2008.

In the event that this paper is not considered to be timely filed, applicants hereby petition for an appropriate extension of time. The fee for any such extension may be charged to our Deposit Account No. 111833.

In the event any additional fees are required, please also charge our Deposit Account No. 111833.

Respectfully submitted,

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